

EAST CENTRAL

Twenty-Five

years

06



Fashion

1973-1998

Homecoming

'97'

WHILE AT EC AS A MEMBER OF THE FASHION SQUAD, I REMEMBER MOST.....

"Going to Pizza Hut and eating buffet after the fashion shows."

"Just having fun with the other girls on the squad."

"I enjoyed the questions about the outfits after the shows from members of the audience. It made us feel good about what we modeled."

"Modeling for area high schools was always fun - we felt famous!"

"Making the advertising commercials for the Mississippi State Parks."

"The excitement of all the girls getting ready for shows."

"Weekly weight-in"

"The day I went to my high school to model."

"Tryouts!"

"Wearing my sister's wedding dress in a Spring fashion show."

"Narrator - describing wrong outfit for Dianne Griffin when on stage."

"Falling on stage in some high school."

"Making my personal port folio, the pictures and fashion clippings bring back a lot of memories."

"We models always being in a big rush in the dressing room during shows. I remember clothes flying everywhere!"

"Modeling in shows on and off campus."

"Spending time with great friends sharing a common interest."

"Once modeling at a dinner theatre I tripped on the stage and Dr. Smith, who was sitting in front, laughed at me."

"First male on squad"

"Friendship, skills I learned."

"When we had to model work gloves."

"At a high school, I tore my panty hose and did not have that extra pair Mrs. Pouncey had told us to have with us."

"Fashion shows in auditorium (I was nervous, but excited)"

"The Bridal Show, dressing up in old clothes for the 50th year celebration picture in the annual, trying to be creative writing commentaries for the show!"

"Modeling clothes from the Brass Knob at Dinner Theatre and Bridal Show."

"I enjoyed modeling at the Dinner Theater."

"The close relationship of the Fashion Squad members, the laughs and good times shared back stage - Mrs. Pouncey was really fun to be with!"

"Modeling for McRae's (Bridal Shows)"

"Being rushed to the basement of McRae's Department Store downtown Jackson after the tornado warning siren went off."

"Stepping on the hem of an evening gown I was modeling while walking down steps on stage and not being able to move forward or backward for what seemed like hours."

"Bridal show at McRae's."

"Modeling in platform shoes."

"Trying on bridal gowns at McRae's when it was on Capitol St. in Jackson. There was a tornado warning and we all had to walk downstairs to the basement. Some of us had on bridal gowns."

"I remember struggling to say the word 'bauble' during a show I was commentating."

"I loved getting out of school and traveling with the other girls and seeing the kids at other schools."

"One of the squad members modeling with her dress unzipped before a large audience."

"Modeling with the squad for the first time at the Dinner Theatre and stuffing envelopes!"

"Feeling like a 'star' when we did shows at high schools."

"When we had the Fashion Show at Lake Tiak O' Khata in Louisville, 1980, I think."

"I really enjoyed the Fashions Shows at the area schools to promote EC to future students."

"The day we took pictures at the Decatur Department Store for the local newspaper."

"The friendships that were renewed and the new friendships that were made. Also being selected to the Homecoming Court."

"My whole EC experience was the most memorable time of my life! ECJC was a very positive influence for me, especially my association with Mrs. Pouncey and the Fashion Squad."

"The whole experience of a small school with the closeness of students and teachers."

"Meeting my husband"

"Being selected 'Academic All-American'"

"When two of us were 'on stage' with the fashion consultant from Gayfers and she put this HUGE scarf in the pocket of my shirt and poofed it out like a balloon -- all my friends laughed and to make it worse, the picture is in the annual. I tripped on stage that day, too!"

WHILE AT EC AS A STUDENT, I REMEMBER MOST.....

"Skipping out of Mason's Biology class."

"My most treasured memories were of the friends I made. Every memory of E.C. is a happy one. Being a member of the Warrior Corps, basketball team, cheerleading."

"I remember the characters of my teachers, Dr. Ethridge, Mr. Guraedy, Mr. Mason, Dr. Harris, Mrs. Pouncey and Mr. Vickers most of all."

"Playing football '84 - '85 seasons."

"Being Homecoming queen, performing at Disney World as a Collegian, the pageants, musicals, roll fights in the cafeteria, Mr. Lee's famous birthday cakes."

"Best time of my student life was at E.C."

"I enjoyed playing intramural basketball."

"Cheering at football games."

"When I broke my little toe playing 1-2-3 redlight in the freshman dorm."

"I remember traveling with the 'Wall O Sound' to ballgames, Phi Theta Kappa to conventions, and the Fashion squad to shows, and other trips."

"Being a member of the Ac'cents and cast of 'Mame'."

"Getting elected as Homecoming queen."

"Graduation!"

"Cheering for the Warriors, being crowned Homecoming queen. and meeting some of best friends."

"Academic All-American."

"Representing ECCC on 'Good Morning America'."

"Becoming a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Mr. Vickers Literature class."

"Playing golf at the community college level."

"Saying the opening prayer at graduation."

"Passed out giving blood."

"BSU events and being a Centraletts."

"The snowfall of 1982 that stranded many of us on campus for a fun weekend."

"Meeting and falling in love with my husband."

"Having fun in the dorms."

"Being in the musical 'Little Mary Sunshine'".

"Sitting around talking with my friends and roommates and all piling into the car headed for the Newton truck stop for french fries and gravy!!"

"There are so many it would be hard to pick just one."

"No one time stands out. I had great years at EC. Especially the students and instructors that became friends. I hope my sons will one day attend EC."

"Football games."

"Playing Spades at night in the dorm - hating to be put out because you lost."

"Sophomore year - and working at the college while I was student."

"Being in Mrs. Pouncey's Home Economics class."

"Making very good friends that I am still in contact with."

"Member of Warrior Corps and Centralette."

"Being able to make my own decision."

"Being drum major, Collegians, dinner theatre."

"Meeting and making wonderful friends."

"Homecoming - Mr. Vickers said 'Crowning of Queen'."

"Looking back, it was a wonderful time, with the best people."

"Being a member of the collegians and participating in the musical."

"Instead of me trying to leave the building, I was trying to find something to wear when the freshmen dorm garbage can caught on fire."

ECCC Fashion Squad Observes 25th Reunion

Alice Pouncey well remembers how the East Central Community College Fashion Squad had its beginning on the Decatur campus. Pouncey, an ECCC faculty member since 1969, recalls that eventful day:

"It was in the fall of 1973 when a sophomore home economics major from Carthage came into the home economics department and asked me about East Central starting a modeling group. The conversation with this student provided the spark of what has become 25 years of Fashion Squads at East Central".

Pouncey and her former Fashion Squad members are among special groups being honored at the College's Homecoming celebration scheduled Saturday, October 18. Actually, activities marking the squad's silver anniversary and final year of existence, begin Friday, October 17, when a fashion show featuring the former models and their children will be held in Huff Auditorium, beginning at 7 p.m. There is no charge for admission and a reception follows in the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building.

Pouncey, who continues to serve as Fashion Squad sponsor and psychology instructor (the College no longer offers home economics), recalls that the first group of models was composed of home economics majors and girls from the five-county district who were "reigning queens," such as Miss Hospitality, Junior Miss or the "Miss" whatever from her town. Pouncey added; "We had 17 models the first year. The group met and decided to be called the Fashion Squad. The first show was a Christmas

Fashion Show for members of Delta Kappa Gamma teachers' Society."

During the first few years of organization, Pouncey said students were allowed to tryout by adding their names to a list. Later, prospective members went through an interview process in addition to having tryouts on stage. In 1977, East Central became the first junior college to add modeling to its curriculum. Pouncey and Dr. Brad Tucker, then dean of instruction, submitted the course description to the Mississippi Junior College Association which approved the class as a credit course.

Since that time, students who wanted to become members of the Fashion Squad enrolled in the Introduction to Modeling Class and also participated in tryouts. Pouncey said former squad members served as judges, with 15 to 20 new members selected each year.

The 1997-98 ECCC Fashion Squad will be modeling at this year's dinner theater presentation of "Harvey" scheduled November 13-15, and at the Spring Fashion Show planned in April.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE FASHION SQUAD

| YEAR | NUMBER ON SQUAD | SECOND YEAR |
|------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1st | 1973-74 | 17 |
| 2nd | 1974-75 | 15 |
| 3rd | 1975-76 | 16 |
| 4th | 1976-77 | 17 |
| 5th | 1977-78 | 15 |
| 6th | 1978-79 | 17 |
| 7th | 1979-80 | 18 |
| 8th | 1980-81 | 23 |
| 9th | 1981-82 | 26 |
| 10th | 1982-83 | 14 |
| 11th | 1983-84 | 18 |
| 12th | 1984-85 | 19 |
| 13th | 1985-86 | 23 (1st male) |
| 14th | 1986-87 | 18 (1 male) |
| 15th | 1987-88 | 21 |
| 16th | 1988-89 | 23 |
| 17th | 1989-90 | 19 |
| 18th | 1990-91 | 20 |
| 19th | 1991-92 | 28 (6 males) |
| 20th | 1992-93 | 23 (2 males) |
| 21st | 1993-94 | 12 (1 male) |
| 22nd | 1994-95 | 16 (1 male) |
| 23rd | 1995-96 | 12 |
| 24th | 1996-97 | 14 |
| 25th | 1997-98 | 9 |

THE TOM-TOM

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Student Publication
East Central Junior College



HOMEcoming QUEEN Cheryl Hicks is escorted from the field by David Caraway. Homecoming attracted the largest crowd in recent years at the annual alumni banquet and football game. [See additional pictures, page 4]

Hicks, Baker named Mr., Miss East Central

by Tony Smith

Who's Who elections at East Central were held Tuesday January 27, with run-off elections held the following Thursday. Who's-Who positions included Mr. and Miss E.C.J.C., Most Handsome, and Sophomore and Freshman favorites.

The student body chose Cheryl Hicks from Hickory, Miss E.C.J.C. Cheryl, a very versatile student, also serves as Student Body Association President, Homecoming Queen, and is a player on the East Central women's basketball team.

**MISS ECJC
PAGEANT
-TONIGHT-
7:30 P.M.
(See story &
pictures, page 3)**

Alan Baker, another active and popular student, was elected Mr. E.C.J.C. Alan, from Brewton, Alabama, is the Student Body Association Vice-President, and Sophomore Class President. He played halfback on the 1975 Warrior football team, and was selected All-State, Honorable Mention All-American, and participated in the Junior College All-Star game in Tupelo.

Both Cheryl and Alan were listed in the 1975-76 edition of **Who's Who in American Junior Colleges.**

Mike Bishop of Sebastopol was elected Most Handsome at East Central in the run-off election.

Sophomore Favorites elected include Sharon Duke of Jackson, Brenda Haralson of Forest, Susan Wilkerson of Walnut Grove, Lamuel Nichols and Joe Johnson, both from Decatur, and Tim Cooper of Morton.

Elected Freshman Favorites were Freda Crowell of Morton; Karla Hatcher of Louisville, Pam Horn of Carthage, Mark Anders from Selma, Alabama, Greg Clark of Dothan, Alabama, and Larry "Boss" Wilkerson from Philadelphia.

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MRUE-134
ECCC

Welcome Home In '97

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



RESTORING
OUR
PAST



East Central Community College
HOMECOMING

October 18, 1997

Alumni Luncheon

Mabry Memorial Cafeteria, October 18, 1997, Noon

| | |
|--|--|
| Presiding..... | Kay Lucas, President ECCC Alumni Association |
| Entertainment..... | Mrs. Leesa Wilkinson ECCC Music-KeyBoard Instructor |
| Invocation..... | Mr. Malcolm Phillips Class of 1948 |
| Welcome and Introductions..... | Dr. Eddie M. Smith President |
| East Central Community College Foundation, Inc. Report..... | Mr. David Howell, Chairman Board of Directors |
| Recognition of Homecoming Court..... | Dr. Eddie M. Smith |
| Nominating Committee Report and Election of Alumni Officers..... | Mrs. Ann Burkes, Co-Chair Homecoming Steering Committee |
| Recognition of Special Alumni Groups..... | Mr. Larry Hogue Director of Development and Alumni Relations |
| | Classes Ending in "7" 1947 Football Team Fashion Squad-25 Year Reunion Warrior Marching Band Alumni |
| Special Recognitions..... | Mr. Randall Lee Dean of Students |
| Golf Tournament Winners..... | Mr. Joe Clark Men's Golf Coach |
| Tennis Tournament Winners..... | Mr. Mike Anderson Activities Director |
| Presentation of Instructors of the Year Awards..... | Dr. Phil Sutphin Dean of Instruction |
| Presentation of Athletic Hall of Fame Awards..... | Mr. Sammy Pace Athletic Director and Women's Basketball Coach |
| Presentation of Alumna of the Year..... | Dr. Eddie M. Smith |
| Presentation of Alumnus of the Year..... | Dr. Eddie M. Smith |
| Adjourn | |

Record of Alumni of the Year

Alumni of the Year

1964-B.O. Smith, Deceased
 1965-Lucille Wood, Decatur
 1966-Henry D. Horton, Louisville
 1967-Crowley Alford, Deceased
 1968-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur
 1969-Arthur Winstead, Deceased
 1970-Leon Sims, Deceased
 1971-Charles Carter, Jackson
 1972-Dr. William L. Weems, Jackson
 1973-Arno Vincent, Meridian
 1974-Elizabeth K. Darby, Philadelphia
 1975-W.C. Spence, Walnut Grove
 1976-John Risher, Philadelphia
 1977-Jessie M. Everett, Decatur
 1978-Class of 1928, First Class
 1979-Glenn D. Walker, Union
 1980-Russell Walton, Deceased
 1981-Dwight Mulholland, Collinsville
 1982-Denver Brackeen, Union
 1983-Frank Hunter, Brookhaven
 1984-Herman Alford, Deceased
 1985-Carl B. Cooper, Deceased
 Dr. Beverly Oliphant, Washington, D.C.
 1986-Kenneth Madison, Philadelphia
 Dr. Pam Kirk, Louisville
 1987-Dr. Brad Tucker, Decatur
 Dr. Addie R. Lee, Birmingham, Alabama
 1988-Henry B. Hudspeth, Louisville
 Dr. Verbie Prevost, Hixson, Tennessee
 1989-Dr. Eddie M. Smith, Decatur
 Dr. Walterine Herrington Bell, Jackson
 1990-Larry Hogue, Flowood
 Jo McMullan Taylor, Forest
 1991-Dr. Clyde Muse, Raymond
 Lois Blount Cooper, Decatur
 1992-Earl Marshall, Clinton
 June Bailey, Biloxi
 1993-Melvin Tingle, Decatur

Patsy Dunigan Clark, Louisville
 1994-Paul V. Breazeale, Jackson
 Jane Todd Gurry, Raleigh, North Carolina
 1995-Dr. John Gipson, Newton
 Wanda Comans Sharp, Sebastopol
 1996-Ray Britt, Walnut Grove
 Brenda Whatley Kirby, Forest
 1997-Dick Livingston, Pulaski
 Carol Farish Vickers, Decatur

Athletic Hall of Fame

1985-Denver Brackeen, Union
 1986-Lucille Wood, Decatur
 1987-Billy Wayne Baucum, Deceased
 1988-Howard Jean Sessums, Deceased
 1989-Lamar Blount, Decatur
 Arno Vincent, Meridian
 Earl Marshall, Clinton
 1990-Jeff Loper, Decatur
 Richard Harris, Hickory
 Sherrell Ray Marshall, Jackson
 1991-Larry Henderson, Daphne, Alabama
 Diana Lyons Jones, Bay Springs
 Wayne Tullos, Belle Glade, Florida
 1992-Evelyn Bender, Lawrence
 Joe Clark, Decatur
 Bert Thompson, Deceased
 1993-Esther Thomas Coleman, Louisville
 Barbara Joe Davidson Russell, Decatur
 Louis Watwood, Arlington, Virginia
 1994-Charlene Bates Jones, Forest
 Charlie Hope, Sharpsburg, Georgia
 Malcolm "Puddin" Jones, Deceased
 1995-Clayton Blount, Decatur
 Nan Huston Keenan, Rose

Hill
 James T. "Jim" Wood, Louisville
 1996-M.E. "Boe" Davis, Cary, N.C.
 John W. Golden, Stone Mountain, Georgia
 Julie Latham, Morton
 Malcolm Phillips, Newton
 1997-Tommye Williamson
 Alfonso, Gulfport
 Lester Baucum, Wiggins
 James L. "Creeper" Nelson, Newton

Instructors of the Year

1982-Ovid Vickers
 1983-Dr. Shelby Harris
 1984-Jessie M. Everett
 1985-Bruce Guraedy, Al Bailey
 1986-Ann Burkes, O.L. Newell
 1987-Tommy Thrash, Chester Clark
 1988-Dr. Richard Ethridge, John Adcock
 1989-Joe Clark, Larry Blackburn
 1990-Lois McMullan, Wallace Keen
 1991-Tom Carson, Ricky Harrison
 1992-Ron Davis, Lester Miles
 1993-Lucille Wood, Sara Griffin
 1994-Alice Pouncey, Elizabeth Breland
 1995-Al Deaton, Sarah A. Griffin
 1996-Charles Hinson, Jimmy Dempsey
 1997-Dr. Richard Fisher, Brenda Johnson

Lifetime Achievement Awards

1991-Dr. Austin Bogan, Decatur
 1994-Homer Hunter, Decatur
 Ovid Vickers, Decatur
 1996-W.H. Johnson, Jr., Decatur
 J.W. Thrash, Decatur



Alumnus of the Year

Dick Livingston

Pulaski, Mississippi

State Representative Richard L. "Dick" Livingston, who has served in the Mississippi House of Representatives since 1972, regards his selection as Alumnus of the Year to be "a very special honor."

"It really made my day when I was notified of the award. I was certainly surprised and to say I'm appreciative is just not enough. I am very, very pleased and happy that this could happen to me and I appreciate being nominated for such a great honor that I will always remember and cherish. I've never received anything that I am prouder of than this award because I think so much of East Central Community College," Livingston said.

A staunch supporter of public education, Livingston has been a member of the House Education Committee since beginning his service in the Legislature and currently serves as sub-committee chairman. Although his main focus concerns community and junior colleges, Livingston also spends a lot of time providing support to other institutions of higher learning as well as secondary and elementary

education.

The Scott County lawmaker said he has "many fond memories" of his years spent at East Central, which were 1958-1960.

"What I remember most was the good feeling that existed on campus not only between students but also with the administration, faculty and staff. I just don't know how to describe it, but any one who went there would certainly know what I mean. College is such a great time in a young person's life and East Central makes it even more enjoyable," he said.

While at East Central, Livingston served as assistant dean of men and was involved in various campus activities. He attended East Central for two years and then transferred to Millsaps College where he played football and received a bachelor's degree in 1962. The former Morton High School standout quarterback played end at Millsaps and experienced two successful campaigns.

Following graduation from Millsaps, Livingston was employed with the GE Credit

Corporation for three years. He was later named football coach and secondary teacher at Morton High School where he served from 1971-75. During this period he was elected to succeed his father, the late Elwin B. Livingston, in the Mississippi House of Representatives. When Rep. Livingston completes his current term in 1998, it will mark 48 years of continuous service by Livingston and his father.

While continuing his service in the legislature, Livingston also served as a loan officer and vice president at Bank of Morton from 1976-1980. Since 1985 he has operated his own real estate and appraisal office in Morton.

He is married to the former Martha Ann Waggoner of Forkville. They have five children: Mrs. Mark (Lee Ann) Palmer of Morton; Mrs. Dan (Marsha) Barnes of Ludlow; David Livingston of Morton; Rori Barnes of Morton; and Jennifer Livingston of Morton. Rep. and Mrs. Livingston also have two grandchildren, Blake Barnes and Beth Barnes.

Alumna of the Year

Carol Farish Vickers

Decatur, Mississippi



Carol Vickers always knew she wanted to be an English teacher. So with a little help and encouragement, the former Carol Farish enrolled at East Central Junior College and began her journey towards an English degree.

After graduating from East Central, Vickers took a secretarial job in the registrar's office to try and save some money to go back to school. She said, "There was no such thing as loans or financial aid."

She was able to return to school and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Upon graduation from USM she was employed at East Central as secretary to former president Arno Vincent. She continued in this position throughout the presidency of Dr. Douglas Montgomery and through a part of Dr. Charles Wright's tenure as president.

She began her teaching career at Decatur High School in 1966 where she served until 1982.

During this time she received her master's degree from USM. From 1983 until her retirement in 1992, Vickers was an English instructor at East Central Community College and served as the College yearbook sponsor for several years.

For the past five years Vickers has tutored the men's basketball team. "I feel like by providing East Central athletes with the extra help they might need has been a way that I could help repay East Central for the things it has done for me."

Vickers also works with the College's ABE/GED program. She teaches classes two mornings a week.

When she is not busy with tutoring or working with the ABE/GED program, Vickers is busy as the Director for the Mississippi Quilt Search Project, a massive volunteer project to locate and document quilts that were made in Mississippi prior to 1945. The information from the quilt project will be stored in the state archives in Jackson.

In addition, she has somehow found the time to write a children's book, "The Llama's Pajamas." She hopes to publish this book in the spring of 1998.

Vickers was selected STAR Teacher three times at Decatur High School and was also chosen Regional STAR Teacher. She was selected Outstanding Young Educator in 1974 and chosen Presidential Scholar Teacher in 1983.

She is married to Ovid S. Vickers, who retired from full-time teaching duties following 40 years of service to ECCC.

The Vickers have three grown children: Mrs. Jon (Nona) Creel of Birmingham, Ala.; Mrs. Jim (Harriet) Laird of Raymond; and Ovid Vickers, III, of Decatur. They also have three grandchildren: Jon Creel, Carol Creel and Hannah Laird.

Vickers said, "East Central has been a dominant force in my life since I first came to the College in 1956. I could never do as much for East Central as East Central has done for me and I mean that."



Athletic Hall of Fame

Tommye Williamson

Alfonso

Gulfport, Mississippi

Mrs. Tommye Alfonso was a standout performer on the 1934-35 and 1935-36 Lady Warrior basketball teams. She helped lead East Central to the state championship and an 18-1 record during her sophomore year. The Lady Warriors also lost only one game her freshman season. That year she was voted best girl athlete in the annual Who's Who elections. On both teams Mrs. Alfonso served as team captain.

In addition to playing basketball, she participated in softball and track. But basketball was her love.

"The biggest thing in our lives back then was playing and winning basketball games. Competition was always tough but Coach (Marguerite) Dacey made sure we were always prepared to play," Mrs. Alfonso said.

Obviously the highlight of her basketball career at East Central was the win over Wesson (Co-Lin) for the state championship. "I don't remember a lot about the game but it was played in Wesson and there was a great crowd there to watch the championship," she added.

Mrs. Alfonso said she has

many fond memories of her time at East Central, to which she referred as "two of my happiest years." She also described the freshman and sophomore years "as the last two years of complete freedom" before one starts feeling the pressure to enter the workforce.

The Duffee native recalled having four roommates, one of which was Nan Huston Keenan of Rose Hill, who was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. Mrs. Keenan was a guard on the championship team and Mrs. Alfonso played running center. Also on the team was Mrs. Alfonso's sister, Lena, who played forward. Back then, women's basketball included three divisions—two guards, two forwards, a jumping center and a running center.

Her sophomore year not only saw Mrs. Alfonso continue to excel as an athlete but she also served as a cheerleader for boys' basketball and football.

During her sophomore year she also had the opportunity to coach, serving as an assistant at Decatur High School as part of her scholarship requirements. "This

was an excellent experience for me. I can't remember winning any games but it was fun. All I had to do was walk across the street to the high school and do something I love," she commented.

One of the highlights of Mrs. Alfonso's career was in 1946 when she was hired to organize a summer recreation program for the City of Gulfport. She resigned in 1949 to start her family. She later began working with her husband, Carl, in the real estate business. He began Alfonso Realty in 1957 and operated the business for 35 years until his retirement at age 65 in 1992. Family members continue to operate the business now known as Coldwell Bankers Alfonso Realty, Inc.

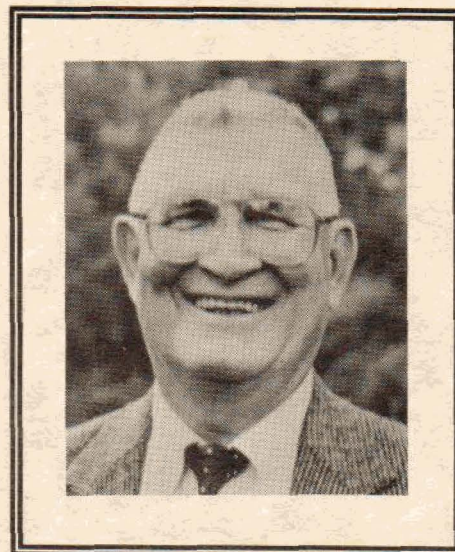
The Alfonsos have two daughters: Mrs. Walter (Carlene) Ketchings and Mrs. Cono (Margaret) Caranna of Gulfport. They have a granddaughter, Amanda, 17.

She said she is "very honored" to have been chosen for the Athletic Hall of Fame and looks forward to returning to the Decatur campus.

Athletic Hall of Fame

Lester Baucum

Wiggins, Mississippi



Unlike most athletes, Lester Baucum had the opportunity to participate in sports for three years while attending East Central. He was an offensive and defensive lineman on the 1954, 1955 and 1956 Warrior football teams. A three-year letterman, Baucum's teammates elected him permanent team captain prior to the 1956 campaign.

A former standout at Newton high School, Baucum transferred to Decatur High School his senior year and, since the high school was part of the College back then, he was eligible to play junior college ball.

When asked about highlights of his football career as a Warrior, Baucum, like many of his teammates, mentioned East Central's 13-7 win over top-ranked Hinds during the 1955 season.

"Hinds had Jim Taylor and Earl Leggett, who both became All-Americans and All-Pro, and other outstanding athletes that year. We were the only team to beat Hinds that season," Baucum recalled.

How did EC beat Hinds? "We were just loose," Baucum laughingly replied, "and the reason we were loose was that our

bus broke down in Forest on the way to Raymond and we really did not know if we would even make it to the game! But actually, we got fired up because of all the press attention Hinds got. The sportswriters said Hinds could not be beaten and we wanted to prove them wrong."

Baucum said another factor involved the Warriors' conquest of Hinds was that the EC defenders were able to determine where the Eagles planned to run the ball thanks to a certain player on the Hinds team.

"They had an end that really gave away where they were going each time by the stance he was in. We would then communicate where the play was going by giving foot signals to each other. As you might expect, we had a great time at that game," he said.

Baucum said he was especially proud of the fact that the Warriors defeated arch-rival East Mississippi all three years he was on the team by a combined score of 89-7. During Baucum's three seasons, East Central had its best record in 1955 with a 6-4 mark.

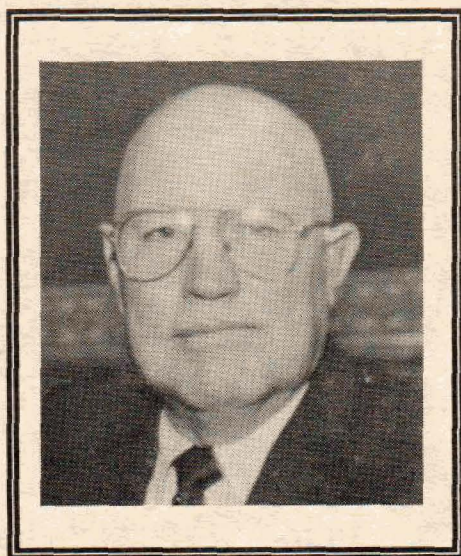
After graduating from East Central, Baucum had a successful career at Louisiana

College where he was named game captain on several occasions.

He graduated from Louisiana College in 1959, receiving a bachelor's degree in physical education and social studies. He later earned a master's degree in school administration from Mississippi College and a specialist degree in the same area from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Baucum began his coaching career at Leakesville High School in 1959 and later served at Pelahatchie High School where, in 1963, he was named Football Coach of the Year in the Capital Athletic Conference. He later moved into school administration serving 17 years as principal of various schools. He retired in 1992 following 10 years service as administrative assistant and federal programs coordinator for the Stone County School System.

Baucum is married to the former Eugenia Carleton of Forest. They have three children: Mrs. Perry (Paige) Booker of Wiggins, Leslie Baucum of Clewiston, Florida; and Lance Baucum of Wiggins. They have five grandchildren: Taylor and Hannah Booker, Carleton Baucum and Carey and Blake Baucum.



Athletic Hall of Fame

James L.

"Creeper" Nelson

Newton, Mississippi

A former standout quarterback and baseball pitcher/first baseman during the 1952-54 school years, "Creeper" Nelson said he is "very, very appreciative" of his selection to the Athletic Hall of Fame.

"I really don't know how the process works but I've got to thank the person who nominated me. I don't know what the criteria is and I feel undeserving of the honor. But I guess I fooled somebody anyway, didn't I?" Nelson said.

Although statistics were not available for those years, Nelson was regarded as an effective signal caller and led the Warriors to a winning season (6-5) his sophomore year. He was a two-year letter-winner in football and baseball.

Nelson, who played his first year under then head coach John Grace and assistant coach Billy Ray Lindsley, and the second year for head coach Clayton Blount who was assisted by Grace and Lindsley, recalled one of his best games as a freshman was against Holmes, a game EC won by a 27-6 margin.

The Warrior offense had

not been functioning well even though the Warriors had a 3-0 mark going into the Holmes matchup. Nelson had gotten word he would start at quarterback against the Bulldogs, and he responded by throwing three touchdowns in a 27-6 victory.

Nelson was starting quarterback his sophomore season and led the Warriors to victories over Mississippi Delta, Northeast, Holmes, Southwest, Marion Institute and Co-Lin.

He also had a successful career as a two-year member of the Warrior baseball team.

In addition to pitching, Nelson played catcher, first base and just about any other position where he was needed to play. He was also an effective hitter, with approximately a .300 batting average both years.

Following graduation at East Central, Nelson continued his education at Delta State where he was a reserve quarterback on the football team and a starting pitcher on the baseball squad. He posted a 5-2 record both years on the mound.

Nelson received a bachelor's degree in mathematics

and physical education from DSU and a master's degree in school administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and later completed additional coursework beyond the master's.

Nelson began his coaching career at Newton High School in 1956. He led the Tigers to their first Choctaw Conference Championship. He was also chosen Coach of the Year on several occasions. During part of the time Nelson served as coach he was also principal at Newton.

Nelson left the school and worked for a savings and loan company for nine years. He returned in 1983, serving a second term as principal until 1986, when he was named Superintendent of Newton Public Schools. He recently announced his retirement from the post, which takes effect on June 30, 1998.

Nelson is married to the former Mary Beth Whatley. Their two sons, Joel and Steve, both live in Newton and daughter, Anna Marie Massingill lives in Meridian. They have five grandchildren: Kurt and Melandie Nelson, Mary Catherine Nelson, and April and Allen Massingill.

*Vocational-Technical
Instructor of the Year*

Brenda Johnson

Philadelphia, Mississippi



In 1983, Brenda Johnson applied for the computer technology position at ECCC. Now, after a variety of students and ever-changing technology, she is still at EC doing what she loves most: teaching!

In addition to her classes, Johnson enjoys working with Phi Beta Lambda, the business organization for students. She has taken students to several national conventions, and many have placed nationally in computer programming and computer concepts. Last summer Johnson was recognized at the PBL National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., for 10 years of service to the organization.

Johnson said, "It's quite an honor (to be chosen instructor of the year). There are probably other people more worthy than I am. But I am really pleased."

Johnson is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School and East Central Community College. She has received additional coursework from Mississippi State University.

After graduating from ECCC, Johnson began working for Molpus Lumber Company full-time. She was employed there 10 years before accepting the position at East Central.

She is married to James Johnson of Philadelphia, owner/operator of Southern Construction and Inspection. They have two children, Jessica and Andy, both students at Neshoba Central. They attend Spring Creek Baptist Church where Mrs. Johnson is a discipleship training teacher and former Sunday School teacher.

Dr. Richard Fisher is the instructor that has always been accused of writing very fast. Some even say while he's giving notes he writes on the chalkboard with one hand and erases with the other! But if you've taken chemistry at EC in the last 20 years, you know it doesn't matter how fast he writes. Dr. Fisher is very dedicated to his work and very effective as an instructor.

Dr. Fisher said, "I don't write very fast. I think I write at a normal speed. But if students learn to take notes fast they will be better off when they get to a university."

When asked about this special recognition, Fisher said, "It's an honor. There are nice people to work with in our department. They are easy to work with and that makes the job easier."

Fisher is a graduate of Cornell University where he received a bachelor's degree in liberal arts and a minor in bio-chemistry. He earned his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

In addition to East Central, Fisher has held positions at the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine, Cambridge University in Oxford, England; the University of London in England, the University of Melbourne, and Drexel University in Pennsylvania.

*Academic
Instructor of the Year*

Dr. Richard Fisher

Decatur, Mississippi





1997 *Homecoming Court*

Members of the 1997 Homecoming Court include (front row, from left) Kamonica Craig of Louisville, Maid of Honor and Laura Gill of Leake Academy, Queen; (second row, from left) Paula Crawford of Neshoba Central, Krisan Risher of Sebastopol and Sherie Brandford of Scott Central, sophomore maids; and (back row, from left) Danna Dye of Morton, Ronit Frey of Louisville, Jennifer Pace of Newton County and Denise Chapman of Newton, freshman maids.

ECCC Receives Funding Support to Construct New Women's Dormitory on South Campus

Plans are in full swing to construct a new women's dormitory at East Central, thanks to the support received by district county boards of supervisors to help fund the much-needed campus addition.

In a presentation made at the College's Board of Trustees meeting in September, ECCC President Dr. Eddie M. Smith said supervisors from Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties have obligated annual revenues totaling \$195,000 over a 25-year period for the new facility.

Dr. Smith, who earlier this summer visited with each county board of supervisors soliciting funds for the project, said he was "very pleased" with the support received from the county officials.

"Obviously we could not construct the dormitory without the cooperation and support from our supervisors and other county officials. This is the first time since 1990 that East Central has asked for an increase in support millage from our district counties, and we are very pleased that our supervisors recognize the tremendous need we have for additional campus housing," Dr. Smith said.

In addition to the special county levies coming from the five support counties, the College plans to utilize college auxiliary revenues and student dorm fees to construct and furnish the new facility.

East Central is currently experiencing a record enrollment of 2052 students and dorms are filled beyond capacity. The present dormitory space was designed to house 434 students, but the College has had to accommodate the 554 students now residing on campus. The additional 120 students have been placed in Leake Hall, which is usually reserved for faculty and married students, and various "honor houses" East Central renovated to help ease the housing shortage incurred by the record enrollment.

Dr. Smith and other College officials recently met with JH&H Architects of Jackson, the firm selected to design the 75-room dormitory scheduled for construction on the South Campus. Plans are to complete the project during the 1998-99 school year.

East Central Awarded Grant for Fitness Trail

A new fitness trail will soon become a reality on the East Central Community College campus, according to a recent announcement by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. State officials said the College will receive federal and state grant monies to help complete the project, which also depends on financial support from private contributors.

College President Dr. Eddie M. Smith said grant approval means the government will fund up to \$20,000 of the \$40,000 project, scheduled to be built on the north end of the campus between the softball field and College pond. He added the mile-long trail will be paved, lighted and handicapped-accessible. The trail will also include handicapped-accessible exercise stations along the way. In addition, plans call for paving the road to the trail and adjacent parking lot.

Dr. Smith stressed that the trail will be open to College personnel, students and to the general public as well. Among community co-sponsors for the trail are the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce, the Decatur Lions Club and the Town of Decatur. Various individuals have also contributed to the project.

Larry Hogue, Director of Development and Alumni Relations at the College, said those who want to contribute to the fitness trail project may do so by designating their checks for the "Investors in Excellence" annual fund, which began in July, 1997. "The sooner we raise our half of the \$40,000, the sooner we can finish the project. We have already received numerous contributions for the fitness trail but have not yet met our goal. I certainly want to encourage our alumni and other friends of the College to be a part of this very worthwhile project," Hogue said.



Former ECCC coach Lucille Wood displays various awards she was recently presented on behalf of her over 40 years of service in community/junior college athletics on the national, regional, state and local levels. She continues to serve at ECCC where she teaches physical education and education classes.

Lucille Wood Honored for Service to Junior/Community College Athletics

Various honors were recently presented to former ECCC coach Lucille Wood in recognition of her 43 years of service to community/junior college athletics.

Wood, who continues to serve as physical education and education instructor at East Central, recently completed a 10-year tenure as Region 23 (Mississippi/Louisiana) Director for Women Athletics. She was honored for her service by region coaches and athletic directors who presented her with an official National Junior College Athletic Association Region Directors' pendant and necklace at the annual Mississippi Coaches' Clinic held this summer in Jackson.

And, she was recognized at the recent NJCAA meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, where she was presented a plaque "in appreciation for many years of devoted leadership in the NJCAA." In addition, the Women's Division presented her with an autographed softball signed by all Association members. The NJCAA honored Coach Wood in 1990 by presenting her with a Certificate of Service Award, presented to only two recipients from throughout the nation on an annual basis.

Wood was also presented a plaque of appreciation from softball and basketball coaches at the Region 23 Softball and Basketball tournaments held last spring.

ECCC Reports Record Enrollment-2052!



A record 2052 students are enrolled at East Central Community College for the 1997 fall semester, and to help illustrate the record total are sophomore members of the Warrior Corps who are shown at the College sign located on the front of campus. The 2052 mark is a 12 percent increase compared to last year's previous record of 1828 students who registered during the 1996 fall term. Pictured are (from left) Suzanne Warren, Leake Academy; Patrick Bacon, Thomastown; Joni French, Forest; Ashlea Renfroe, Morton; Adria Stamper, Newton County Academy; Deanna Bankston, Union; Amanda Moore, Carthage; Krisan Risher, Sebastopol; Justin Miles, Nanih Waiya; Kamonica Craig, Louisville; Brian Sistrunk, Leake Academy; Brian Hardy, Philadelphia; Cyrus Ben, Neshoba Central; Brian Shaw, Forest; Richard Blackburn, Newton County Academy; Paula Crawford, Neshoba Central; Amy Gomillion, Leake Academy; TaRita Williamson, Neshoba Central; and Alex Lee, Lake. The Warrior Corps is an organization composed of a select group of students who assist in recruiting and serve as hosts for various College events and activities. Academic counselor Michael Alexander serves as sponsor.

East Central Receives Hardin Grant

East Central Community College has been awarded a Phil Hardin Foundation grant to establish a Faculty Excellence Endowment. Mark Porter, president of the Meridian-based organization, said the award is a one-for-two matching grant for up to \$25,000 a year for three years and a total of \$75,000. To receive the Hardin funds, the College must raise from private contributors \$50,000 a year for three years, for a total of \$150,000. Contributions to the recently established "Investors in Excellence" annual fund are designated for the Hardin project.

In accepting the Hardin grant, Dr. Eddie M. Smith, ECCC president, said the College "is grateful to the Board of Directors of the Phil Hardin Foundation for this award." Dr. Smith added, "I am confident that the alumni and friends of East Central will put forth every effort to help us reach the overall matching goal for this endowment."

Dr. Smith said earnings from the endowment will be used to fund advanced enrichment experiences for faculty in such areas as technology training and professional development seminars.

Larry Hogue, Director of Development and Alumni Relations at the College said, "I certainly want to encourage our alumni, administration, faculty, staff and student body to participate in this matching fund project by giving to the EC annual fund. It is a tremendous honor to be selected to receive the Hardin grant. The grant will be of great benefit for the ECCC faculty."

For more information regarding the "Investors in Excellence" annual fund, contact Larry Hogue, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, ECCC, Decatur, Miss. 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 323.

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 1928

DECATUR, MISS. 39327

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B. J. TUCKER, ACADEMIC DEAN
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C. D. BRACKEEN, DEAN OF STUDENTS
B. L. GRIFFIN, BUSINESS MANAGER

September 12, 1977

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Vincent
2829 Myrtlewood Drive
Merodoo
M

On October 8, 1977, East Central Junior College will celebrate its annual homecoming. As a part of the homecoming celebration, the Alumni Association will honor Mrs. Jessie Mae Everett as its Alumnus of the Year. At 3 p.m. on that day, there will be a reception on the campus honoring Mrs. Everett, with the formal presentation of the Alumnus of the Year Award being made at a banquet that evening.

Mrs. Everett graduated from East Central Junior College in 1949 and, after having received the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the University of Mississippi, returned to East Central in 1956 as a member of the Business Education faculty.

Mrs. Everett is not only an excellent teacher, having influenced the lives of literally hundreds of young men and women who have gone on to make important contributions in the world of American business, but she has given untiringly of her time and efforts in community, state, and national affairs. Mrs. Everett is married to Decatur attorney James B. Everett and is the mother of two children, one a freshman at East Central Junior College and the other a senior medical student at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

We would be greatly honored if you could attend our homecoming to help honor Mrs. Everett. However, realizing your busy schedule we know that this might be impossible.

As a part of the ceremony honoring Mrs. Everett, we would like to present her with a scrapbook containing letters of commendation. We would appreciate it if you could write Mrs. Everett such a letter and send it to me to be included in the scrapbook.

Sincerely yours,

Lucille Wood

Lucille Wood, Chairman
Alumnus of the Year Committee

lw/cv